



Tell me, roses

Joseph Barnby
(1838-1896)

$\text{♩} = 120$

S
Tell me, ros - es, ere ye die, While on

A
Tell me, ros - es, ere ye die, While on

T
Tell me, ros - es, ere ye die, While on

B
Tell me, ros - es, ere ye die, While on

Tell me, roses

6

S De - lia's breast ye lay, Since ye were al -

A De - lia's breast ye lay, Since ye were al -

T De - lia's breast ye lay, Since ye were al -

B De - lia's breast ye lay, Since ye were al -

11

S low'd so nigh, Pri - thee, cher - ish'd ros - es say,

A low'd so nigh, Pri - thee, cher - ish'd ros - es say,

T low'd so nigh, Pri - thee, cher - ish'd ros - es say,

B low'd so nigh, Pri - thee, cher - ish'd ros - es say,

17

S hear a sigh? That might chase my

A hear a sigh?

T Did you hear a sin - gle sigh?

B hear a sigh?

Tell me, roses

23

S doubt a - way; Tell me, ros - es, can it be,

A hear a sigh? Tell me,

T hear a sigh? Tell me, ros - es, can it be,

B hear a sigh? can it be,

29

S That she heav'd a sigh for me?

A That she heav'd a sigh for me?

T That she heav'd a sigh for me?

B That she heav'd a sigh for me?

33

S Yet a - gain, sweet ros - es, tell, While on

A Yet a - gain, sweet ros - es, tell, While on

T Yet a - gain, sweet ros - es, tell, While on

B Yet a - gain, sweet ros - es, tell, While on

Tell me, roses

38

S De - lia's breast ye lay, Since that ye did

A De - lia's breast ye lay, Since that ye did

T De - lia's breast ye lay, Since that ye did

B De - lia's breast ye lay, Since that ye did

43

S fare so well, Pri - thee, fa - vour'd ros - es, say,

A fare so well, Pri - thee, fa - vour'd ros - es, say,

T fare so well, Pri - thee, fa - vour'd ros - es, say,

B fare so well, Pri - thee, fa - vour'd ros - es, say,

49

S if by chance, Af - ter I had

A if by chance,

T If by chance a tear - drop fell,

B if by chance,

Tell me, roses

55

S gone a - way; _____ Tell me, ros - es, can it be, _____

A gone a - way; Tell _____ me,

T gone a - way; _____ Tell me, ros - es, can it be, _____

B gone a - way; _____ can _____ it be, _____

61

S That she shed _____ a _____ tear for me?

A That she shed a tear for me?

T That _____ she _____ shed a tear for me?

B That she shed a tear for me?

63

S Tell me, ros - es, yet _____ once _____ more, _____ In her

A Tell me, ros - es, yet once more, In her

T Tell me, ros - es, yet once more, In her

B Tell me, ros - es, yet once more, In her

Tell me, roses

70

S
cham - bers all the night, Since ye were al -

A
cham - bers all the night, Since ye were al -

T
cham - bers all the night, Since ye were al -

B
cham - bers all the night, Since ye were al -

75

S
low'd to pour Fra - grance out for her de - light,

A
low'd to pour Fra - grance out for her de - light,

T
low'd to pour Fra - grance out for her de - light,

B
low'd to pour Fra - grance out for her de - light,

81

S
as of yore, Ere I met her

A
as of yore,

T
Did she slum - ber as of yore,

B
as of yore,

Tell me, roses

87

S
heav'n - ly sight? Or, sweet ros - es, can it

A
Ere I met her? Tell,

T
Ere I met her? Or, sweet ros - es, can it

B
Ere I met her? can it be,

92

S
be, That she wak'd to think of me?

A
me, That she wak'd to think of me?

T
be, That she wak'd to think of me?

B
That she wak'd to think of me?

W. F. Sidds
(1884)

Sir Joseph Barnby (1838–1896) was born at York, as a son of organist Thomas Barnby. He was a chorister at York Minster and was educated at the Royal Academy of Music. In 1856, he competed for the first Mendelssohn Scholarship and tied for first place with Arthur Sullivan, but, after a second test, Sullivan won. Barnby held organist positions at Mitcham, St. Michael's, Queenhithe, and St. James' the Less, Westminster, St. Andrew's, Wells Street, London, and St. Anne's, Soho. In London, he also was conductor of "Barnby's Choir," well known for their many performances. In 1871 he was appointed conductor of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, succeeding the eminent composer Charles Gounod after he returned to his native France. He held that position until his death. He was director of music at Eton College then principal of the Guildhall School of Music. His works include oratorio, many services and anthems, 246 hymn tunes, organ pieces, and many part-songs, some of the most popular of the era.

Tell me, roses, ere ye die,
While on Delia's breast ye lay,
Since ye were allowed so nigh,
Prithee, cherished roses say,
Did you hear a single sigh?
That might chase my doubt away;
Tell me, roses, can it be,
That she heaved a sigh for me?

Yet again, sweet roses, tell,
While on Delia's breast ye lay,
Since that ye did fare so well,
Prithee, favoured roses, say,
If by chance a teardrop fell,
After I had gone away;
Tell me, roses, can it be,
That she shed a tear for me?

Tell me, roses, yet once more,
In her chambers all the night,
Since ye were allowed to pour
Fragrance out for her delight,
Did she slumber as of yore,
Ere I met her heavenly sight?
Or, sweet roses, can it be,
That she waked to think of me?

Anon.

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